GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4216
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2002
COTTON CULTIVATION IN PUNJAB
BHAN SINGH BHAURA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to defective seeds the total cultivable area for cotton has come down in Punjab;

(b) if so, the area for the current year in comparison with previous three years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the area under cotton cultivation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): No, Sir. The area under cotton cultivation in Punjab has gone down due to late supply of canal water, low market price and low yield of the cotton crop during the previous year.

(b): The area under cotton cultivation in Punjab is likely to be 4.58 lakh ha. during the current year compared to 4.74 lakh ha. in 1999-2000, 4.74 lakh ha in 2000-01 and 6.00 lakh ha. (estimated) in 2001-02.

(c): The steps taken by the Government to increase the area under cotton cultiv ationinclude, inter alia, transfer of technology to farmers through field demonstrations, training & mass media; adoption of Integrated Pest Management; popularisation of new varieties; ensuring the availability of good quality seeds; constitution of surveillance teams to monitor pests/diseases and suggest measures for their control; etc.